

# TRANSMITTAL FORM

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Total Number of Pages in This Submission

4

Application Number

10/620,324

Filing Date

July 14, 2003

First Named Inventor

Robert Charles Downs

Group Art Unit

3652

Examiner Name

Unassigned

Attorney Docket Number

36-000410US

**ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)**

- ☐ Fee Transmittal Form  
☐ Fee Attached
- ☐ Amendment / Response  
☐ After Final  
☐ Affidavits/declaration(s)
- ☐ Extension of Time Request
- ☐ Express Abandonment Request
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement
- ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
- ☐ Response to Missing Parts/  
Incomplete Application
- ☐ Response to Missing  
Parts under 37 CFR  
1.52 or 1.53

- ☐ Assignment Papers  
(for an Application)
- ☐ Drawing(s)
- ☐ Licensing-related Papers
- ☐ Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69)  
and Accompanying Petition
- ☐ Petition to Convert to a  
Provisional Application
- ☐ Power of Attorney, Revocation  
Change of Correspondence  
Address
- ☐ Terminal Disclaimer
- ☐ Small Entity Statement
- ☐ Request for Refund

- ☐ After Allowance Communication  
to Group
- ☐ Appeal Communication to Board  
of Appeals and Interferences
- ☐ Appeal Communication to Group  
(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
- ☐ Proprietary Information
- ☐ Status Letter
- ☒ Additional Enclosure(s)  
(please identify below):

receipt acknowledgment  
postcard**Authorization to Charge Deposit Account**

Please charge Deposit Account No. 50-0893 for any additional fees associated with this paper or during the pendency of this application, including any extensions of time for consideration of the documents enclosed.

Remarks

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT**Firm  
or  
Individual name

Christopher C. Sappenfield, Reg. No. 45,073, Quine Intellectual Property Law Group, P.C.

Signature

Date

March 30, 2004

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Date

March 30, 2004



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QUINE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW GROUP, P.C.

By Deborah Berwick  
Deborah Berwick

Attorney Docket No. 36-000410US  
Client Ref. No. P0023US10

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Robert Charles Downs, et al.

Application No.: 10/620,324

Filed: July 14, 2003

For: GRIPPING MECHANISMS,  
APPARATUS, AND METHODS

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: 3652

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97 and  
§ 1.98

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO-1449 are being called to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the cited information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

Applicant believes that no fee is required for submission of this statement, since it is being submitted prior to the first Office Action on the merits per 37 CFR 1.97(b)(3). However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-0893. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

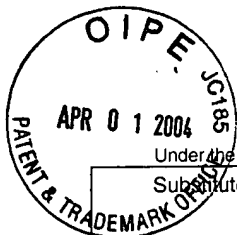
Respectfully submitted,



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Substitute for form 1449A-B/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

## Complete if Known

Application Number	10/620,324
Filing Date	July 14, 2003
First Named Inventor	Robert Charles Downs
Group Art Unit	3652
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	36-000410US
Date Submitted	March 30, 2004

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code (if known)			
	AA	3,824,674		Inoyama et al.	07-23-1974	
	AB	4,616,414		Cushman	10-14-1986	

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T
		Office	Number	Kind Code (if known)				
	AC	EP	0 975 009	A1	ASM Japan K.K.	01-26-2000		

## OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.